Osama Bin Gotten

It is a great time to be an American. Public enemy number one, Osama Bin Laden, was killed by a secret team of U.S. Navy SEALs in Abbottabad, Pakistan, announced President Obama on May 1, 2011.

“It was really exciting when I first heard the news,” said junior Sammie O’Sullivan, “but now I’m worried about the retaliation from al qaeda and other terrorists.”

It had been ten long years since the tragedy of the terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center on September 11, 2001. Al Qaeda leader, Osama Bin Laden was primarily blamed for the attacks and has been in hiding for the past ten years.

Bin Laden was very careful to avoid any computers, cell phones, or any other type of technology that might disclose his location, but he did use couriers to carry his important messages to other members of al-Qaeda.

At secret CIA prisons in Europe the American government interrogated important members of al-Qaeda on Bin Laden’s whereabouts. The CIA agents conducting these interrogations were criticized by many for enforcing harsh tactics and torture to obtain information from prisoners. However, it was one of these prisoners that informed the U.S. government about the existence of the couriers which led them to Bin Laden’s secret residence in Abbottabad, Pakistan.

America kept its intelligence and findings from all other nations in the world, including Pakistan. President Obama ordered the mission on his own without any communication with allies such as Britain.

The formerly very secretive SEALs Team 6 of the U.S. Navy SEALs carried out this mission in a specialized plan of attack. This special operations troop is made up of highly trained soldiers that have been handpicked by the government to act in extremely dangerous and important missions.

President Obama ordered the secret mission from Washington DC, as he and other government officers watched the entire operation unfold from a web cam positioned on one of the SEAL’s head in Pakistan.

Bin Laden’s body was buried at sea, wrapped in a white sheet, and washed with traditional Muslim rituals within twenty four hours after his death. The U.S. government took special care to carry out a traditional Muslim burial as to not upset any religious sects and maintain proper relationships with foreign leaders.

Celebrations rang out all over the country as President Obama addressed the nation in a late night press conference on Sunday May 1st to announce Bin Laden’s death.

“I was on a cruise when I found out the news,” said junior Beth Rusterholz, “everyone was partying and cheering all night. It was a really exciting time.”

Students in Washington D.C. congregated outside the White House and celebrated for hours. “U.S.A!” chants could be heard all over the country from ground zero in lower Manhattan to an excited crowd at a Philadelphia Phillies baseball game.

“Celebrating the death of a person is wrong, but I think everyone had the right to be excited about this” said O’Sullivan.

For many Americans the death of this evil mastermind is an act of justice. Finally this man who is responsible for the deaths of thousands of our citizens has been taken down.

There have been some controversies and there is much doubt in the public’s mind. Most assumed the American government would release the photos of Bin Laden’s dead body to put an end to all questioning.

President Obama announced on Wednesday May 4 that the pictures of Bin Laden’s body would not be released to the public.

It seemed like most of the public assumed Bin Laden had been hiding in the mountains of Pakistan for the past ten years. Surprisingly Bin Laden was found in an enormous compound living with his family and aid. His clothing had $700 and two cell phones sown into the lining, in order for a quick getaway.

It is unclear just how long Osama was residing in this lush compound, but the fact that the most wanted man in the world was able to reside comfortably in Pakistan without being noticed raises many questions for the Pakistani government.

“I think this tells us once again that unfortunately Pakistan at times is playing a double game,” said Sen. Susan Collins, R-Maine, a member of the Armed Services Committee.

Abbottabad, the resort town Bin Laden’s compound was located in, is very close to the Pakistan capital, Islamabad. Abbottabad has a very strong military presence and should have been a very secure area, not an easy hide-out for the leader of al-Qaida. This raises the idea that the Pakistani government was possibly protecting Bin Laden.

Though there is a lot of questioning military action will most likely not take place. Pakistan relies heavily on the U.S. and the U.S. fears Pakistan for their possession of nuclear weapons, therefore neither nation can afford to destroy their relationship.

Even with all the controversy and questioning it is without a doubt a great time to be an American. Justice has been served, Bin Laden is dead.